tion, so as to make provision for the quartering of special (punitive) police in disturbed areas, should a case of this kind recur. The Military had to be called out in connection with the riot at Trivandrum and His Highness' Government considered it necessary later on to direct that the Pangode Battalion should be recruited at once to its full sanctioned strength of 500. This has been done, with the result that the expenditure on the Military department stands as follows:—

Actuals of 1082	....	....	Rs. 2,04,673.
Actuals of 1083	....	....	Rs. 2,17,370.
Budget provision for 1084	....	....	Rs. 2,93,700.

Civil and Criminal Justice.

19. Criminal Justice.—As it was found that the Assistant Excise Commissioner at Alleppey, who was also the First Class Magistrate there, was unable, on account of his other multifarious duties, to devote adequate time to his magisterial work, His Highness' Government, on the representation of the High Court, created a separate First Class Magistrate's Court for the Alleppey town, the existing Second Class Magistrate's Court at the place being abolished. Again, as it was found that the revenue and devaswom duties of the Quilon Tahsildar were enough to occupy his whole attention and that that officer was unable to spare adequate time for his magisterial work, a Stationary Magistrate was located at Quilon, with first class powers, and with jurisdiction over the whole taluk, the Quilon Tahsildar being relieved of his magisterial duties and the Third Class Magistrate's Court at Paravur (in the Quilon taluk) being abolished. The state of crime generally and the working of the Criminal Courts showed no changes worth mentioning.

20. Civil Justice.—The following changes, sanctioned at the end of the previous year, were given effect to during the year under review, viz., the appointment of a Second Judge for the Quilon District Court as a temporary measure for one year, the permanent location of one of the itinerant Munsiffs' Courts as a regular Court at Chengannur with defined territorial jurisdiction, the permanent location of the other itinerant Munsiff's Court as an additional one at Quilon, the opening of a Munsiff's Court at Kanjirapalli by investing the local Magistrate with the powers of a Munsiff and the appointment of a separate Magistrate-Munsiff at Shencottah in supersession of the arrangement under which the local Tahsildar was exercising civil and criminal jurisdiction in addition to his revenue and other functions. The volume of fresh litigation—original and appellate—which came in during 1083 was practically the same as in the previous year and the arrears showed no signs of diminution. The number of original suits of more than two years' duration in the District Courts rose from 25 to 51 and that of appeals of similar duration from one to 8. The congestion of work was most marked in the Alleppey Court and steps have been taken since the close of the year to appoint two Additional Judges temporarily to this Court to clear off the arrears. His Highness' Government anticipate that, when the Civil Courts' Bill is passed into law, there would be a marked decline in the volume of original work coming into the District Courts. Under the Bill, the original powers of Munsiffs would rise from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,000 and their small cause powers from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100. The appellate powers of District Courts would rise from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000. As soon as the Bill is

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly